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7 August 1979

# Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

No. 87

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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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7 August 1979

**WORLDWIDE REPORT**  
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

No. 87

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

'TANJUG': JORDANIAN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON VISIT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1614 GMT 18 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Prestina--Tomorrow's edition of the PRISTINA RILINDJA features an interview with 'Adnan Abu'Awdah, minister of information of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, given during his recent visit to our country and to the socialist autonomous province of Kosovo.

The Jordanian minister emphasizes first of all that after his stay in Yugoslavia, our system and the role played in this system by the republics and provinces are much clearer to him. I concur, he says, that Yugoslavia has in this way very correctly solved the question of the nations and nationalities in the country and in this sense serves as a model for the world.

Abu'Awdah gave a very positive assessment of cooperation between Yugoslavia and Jordan. "I pay no mere compliments when I say that Yugoslavia has always worked toward equal cooperation in the sphere of information between the nonaligned countries, too. This was the case in the plan to bring the radio and television stations of the nonaligned countries even closer together. The preparatory meeting in Amman was held with this aim. The main meeting is to be held in Belgrade. We believe that Yugoslavia will coordinate the initiative in the highest organs of the nonaligned countries, too, so that as many members of the movement as possible will be encompassed in this cooperation."

'Adnan Abu'Awdah assessed as very successful the results of the third meeting of the nonaligned on information--which was recently held in Lome-- and he recalled that particular attention had been devoted to the activity of the nonaligned pool of news agencies, especially in connection with the forthcoming meeting on telecommunications which is to be held in Geneva, after 20 years. The Geneva meeting is of great importance for our movement, since new radio station frequencies are to be fixed at this meeting.

In answer to a question on what he thinks about the new information system, the Jordanian minister said that alongside the need to build a new economic order, there is also the need to build a new information system. It is well known, he says, that the developed countries have strong news agencies.

However, the way in which they treat the world is absolutely undemocratic, for not only do they give their own dimension to news reports and events which are of importance to all but they also wish to foist this on countries to which they broadcast this news. Such an "embargo" damages the system of true information in the world. I am sure that the forthcoming summit in Havana will bring up this question, given that the "battle for the great versus the small" is waged in this sphere, too, the Jordanian minister concludes in his interview with RILINDJA.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

EGYPT, FRANCE SIGN RADIO, TV COOPERATION PROTOCOL

Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 22 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Paris, 22 Jun--A cooperation protocol was signed in Paris today between the Egyptian Radio and Television Union and the public administration of cultural, scientific and technical relations at the French Foreign Ministry. On the Egyptian side the protocol was signed by Tamadir Tawfiq, director of Egyptian television, and on the French side by the director of the public administration of cultural, scientific and technical relations at the French Foreign Ministry.

The protocol, which is valid for 2 years, provides for the bilateral exchange of radio and television programs and television news clips via artificial satellites; for the exchange of recorded music, songs, folklore and modern music; and for the exchange of expertise in training, technical and cultural assistance in various fields.

Under the protocol, the French side will organize long-term and short-term training courses for Egyptian radio and television employees.

A separate protocol was also signed today between Radio France and the Egyptian Broadcasting Service for cooperating in covering important events in both countries; for providing facilities to correspondents from both sides; for exchanging radio productions; and for supplying French programs to the Egyptian Radio's European service.

Mrs Tamadir Tawfiq is currently in Paris at the head of an Egyptian information delegation.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

PRC, TUNISIA SIGN CULTURAL COOPERATION PACT

Beijing XINHUA in English 1549 GMT 22 Jun 79 OW

[Text] Beijing, 22 Jun (XINHUA)--An agreement on cultural cooperation between the People's Republic of China and the Tunisian Republic was signed here today by Chinese Minister of Culture Huang Zhen and Tunisian Minister of Cultural Affairs Mohamed Yawali.

According to the agreement, the two parties will take all possible measures to promote and develop cooperation and exchanges in the spheres of culture, the arts, sports, youth, information, broadcasting and television among others.

Present at the signing ceremony were Ao Zhongming, Chinese vice-minister of culture; Zhou Jue, acting director of the West Asian and North African affairs department of the foreign ministry, and Cui Jiac, Chinese ambassador to Tunisia.

Tunisian ambassador to China Mohamed El Memni was also present.

Mohamed Yawali gave a farewell banquet here this evening at which the Tunisian minister of cultural affairs, Chinese Minister Huang Zhen and Vice-Minister Zhongming repeatedly toasted the signing of the new agreement and expressed the hope that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop.

Tunisian Minister of Cultural Affairs Mohamed Yawali will shortly leave Beijing for home via Guangzhou.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

SOVIET-FRENCH BROADCASTING COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD021758 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1442 GMT 2 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Moscow--A working protocol on cooperation in 1979-1980 between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the French national company Radio France was signed here today. It provides for the further development of cooperation between the USSR and France in the field of radio broadcasting in the spirit of the Helsinki agreements.

The protocol was signed by Sergey Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and J. Baudrier, the president and director general of Radio France.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

FRANCE, PRC CONDUCT DATA SWITCHING EXPERIMENT

OW021308 Paris AFP in English 1150 GMT 2 Jul 79 OW

[Text] Beijing, July 2 (AFP)--The first ever data switching experiment between a Western country and China was carried out today when a first batch was switched from computer terminals here via satellite to a commuting center near Orleans, France.

The hook-up, established by the French TRANSPAC Company by means of the INTELSAT communications satellite, linked terminals set up for a week-long series of demonstrations at the research center of the Chinese Telecommunication Ministry and the center of TRANSPAC's network. The new technology permits transmission of considerable amounts of data at high speed.

Some 300 experts from various Chinese ministries are expected to study the working of the system during a series of daily transmissions over the coming week. The Chinese will thus have access to data in nearly a dozen computers in various French centers which are linked to TRANSPAC's network. Besides receiving data concerning sectors in which China take a specific interest, the research institute here will get access to computers for scientific calculations, and telecommunications experiments will be carried out.

The first link-up this afternoon, which lasted for about 90 minutes, enabled the Chinese experts present to study the working of large terminals with printers and "dialogues" within the French TRANSPAC network. The Beijing institute also was in contact with two French data banks, one covering the construction industry and one containing data for use in the chemical and textile sectors. The demonstration was carried out in the presence of senior officials of the French and Chinese telecommunications ministries.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

PRC, FRG CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT VIA SATELLITE

OW090956 Beijing XINHUA in English 0850 GMT 9 Jul 79 OW

[Text] Beijing, July 9 (XINHUA)--The Chinese National Institute of Metrology and the Federal Institute of Physico-Technique of the Federal Republic of Germany conducted a joint experiment on time synchronization by making use of a man-made satellite between June 18 and 27.

Initial tests proved that the chief technical index--stability of time transferred by the satellite--was at about 10 nanosecond (equivalent to one hundred millionth of a second), up to the current international standard. The experiment was carried out by the Raistine Ground Station in West Germany and the Nanjing Experimental Satellite Communication Ground station in China at a distance of some 10,000 kilometres. The two sides transmitted and received some 5,700 pieces of data within the eight days.

Time synchronization means getting two clocks in places far apart to show the same time. Highly precise synchronism of time is significant to the launching and tracking of satellites and the development of various fields of science including fixing the position and navigation of astronauts, ships and aeroplanes, surveying and cartography of the earth, establishment of large communications network and earthquake prediction. China experienced a fairly quick growth in the time metrology field in the last few years.

Scientists at 15 Chinese research institutes first utilized the satellite "Symphony No. 1" of West Germany and France to carry out experiments on time synchronization between Beijing and Shanghai and then between Nanjing and Shanghai in March. The recent large-scale experiment was conducted on the basis of the previous experiments. The experiment was a test of the China-made complete set of ground transmitting and receiving equipment and testing apparatus for preciseness of time. It will shorten the time for research into this up-to-date technique and accelerate China's entry into the advanced field of using synchronous satellite for time dissemination. It has laid a good foundation for China to disseminate standard time independently.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

NEW ALGERIAN TELECOMMUNICATION STATION--Algiers, 22/7/79 (APS)--Algeria has put into service a telecommunications station connected to the Soviet satellite "Stationnar 4" to receive pictures retransmitted by the "Intersputnik" system, the Algerian Ministry for Telecommunications has announced. The station located at Lakhdaria (80 kms from Algiers) will assure in a first state direct telex and telephonic touches with all the socialist countries including Cuba. It will also allow the Algerian radio television establish exchanges with the "Intervision" network connecting televisions of socialist countries. Algerian T.V. viewers will watch--live or recorded--the pre-olympic games (Spartakiade) which recently started in Moscow. [Algiers APS in English 1032 GMT 22 Jul 79 LD]

FRANCO-IVORIAN TELEVISION AGREEMENT--An agreement was signed yesterday at 1700 at the embassy of the Ivory Coast in Paris, between our minister of information, Mr Amadou Thiam and Mr Autin, managing director of the Broadcasting Corporation of France (TDF) to appoint TDF as engineering consultant for the realization of the project of completely covering the national territory with radio and television broadcasts. [Text] [Abidjan FRERNITE-MATIN in French 11 Jul 79 p 1 AB]

SAUDIS TO PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE--Riyadh--It has been decided that the Kingdom is to take part in the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference to be held in Geneva next September. [Excerpt] [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Jul 79 LD]

AFGHAN-USSR COMMUNICATION-Kabul, 6 Jun (BAKHTAR)--The agreement for establishing direct telephone and telegram links between Kabul and Moscow was signed at the ministry of communications on 4 June. In the presence of Khalilullah Kohestani, deputy minister for administrative affairs on communications ministry, the agreement was signed by Eng Mohammad Zareen, caretaker technical deputy minister and president of telecommunications department of that ministry and Boris Titov, counsellor for economic affairs of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul and the related documents were exchanged. Under the agreement, a complete wireless station including transmitter, receiver and four channel telegraphic station valued at 6 million Afghans will be given as grant-in-aid by the USSR to Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The complete station will be delivered to Afghan authorities in the next 2 months. [Text] [Kabul KABUL TIMES in English 6 Jun 79 p 2 BK]

TANJUG-PRENSA LATINA 'POOL' CONFERENCE--Havana--Mihailo Saranovic, chief and executive editor of TANJUG, has paid a 2-day visit to Havana, where he had talks with Gustavo Robreno, director of PRENSA Latina, on cooperation between the two agencies and on reporting from the sixth summit conference on nonaligned countries in September. They stressed the great importance of full reporting from this important conference and noted that Cuba was exerting great efforts to insure good working conditions at the conference for reporters, including those from agencies which are members of the nonaligned countries' pool of agencies. During the talks agreement was expressed that the second conference of the pool of nonaligned countries' agencies, which had been postponed for a certain period of time, should be held in Belgrade following the sixth conference, if possible as early as October this year. Identical agreement was also reached in the talks which Saranovic held over the past few days with the news agencies in Peru, Panama and Mexico. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1147 GMT 30 Jun 79 LD]

'XINHUA' OFFICE IN MONROVIA--Monrovia, 30 Jun (AFP)--An office of the XINHUA press agency was officially inaugurated in Monrovia on Friday night by Sun Li-dian, the charge d'affaires of the PRC Embassy in Liberia. Sun said that his country has opened the office at a time when Liberia is getting ready to hold the 16th summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity, thereby proving China's interest in Africa. Five XINHUA correspondents and one from the PEOPLE'S DAILY are in Monrovia to cover the summit meeting. [Text] [Paris AFP in French 1435 GMT 30 Jun 79 PA]

SOVIET-FRENCH BROADCASTING COOPERATION--Moscow--A working protocol on co-operation in 1979-1980 between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the French National Company Radio France was signed here today. It provides for the further development of cooperation between the USSR and France in the field of radio broadcasting in the spirit of the Helsinki agreements. The protocol was signed by Sergey Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and J. Baudrier, president and general director of Radio France. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1442 GMT 2 Jul 79 LD]

JAPAN-RWANDA COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT--Tokyo, 20 Jun KYODO--A government survey team left here Tuesday night for Rwanda to study a project for constructing an earth station for satellite communications as part of technical cooperation with the African country. The six-member team will select a site for the station in the capital city of Kigali and conduct a survey on the layout of the projected international and internal exchanges, international telex switching system and other related facilities. The team, headed by Shigeru Fukuda, of the ministry of posts and telecommunications, consists of experts from the ministry and Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co (KDD). The international telecommunications network in Rwanda is still underdeveloped and even communications with neighbouring Zaire are sent via Europe--Brussels, for example, --foreign ministry officials said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0057 GMT 20 Jun 79 OW]

UK TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL--A protocol on Hungarian-British long-term technological cooperation has been signed in Budapest. At the 4-day session of the two countries' mixed commission it was noted that the volume of trade is less than justified, and so enterprises will be encouraged to step up trade. There are many untapped opportunities for the joint manufacture of electronic and telecommunications equipment and components. Cooperation can be expanded in the road vehicle, chemical and the pharmaceutical industries. Closer attention should be paid to joint operations in the markets of third countries. [Text] [Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 6 Jul 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

ASEAN NEWS AGENCIES PLAN COMMUNICATION NETWORK

Hong Kong AFP in English 0400 GMT 17 Jul 79 OW

[Text] Manila, July 13 (AFP)--The Asean news agencies today announced plans to set up a regional communications network as soon as possible and signed an agreement on several cooperative projects.

The agreement signed after a five-day meeting of news agency managers of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines, provides for several cooperative undertakings involving editorial staff exchanges, joint research and studies on matters of mutual interest, assistance for visiting ASEAN news agency staff and other programmes.

The agencies in a joint communique announced agreement on a major project--the setting up of a communication network among Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) news agencies to implement "the long sought objective of a reliable, up-to-date and efficient flow of news within the region."

The agreement was signed by Indonesia's ANTARA general manager August Marpaung, Malaysia's BERNAMA general manager Dol Ramli, Thai News Agency director Miss Suri Phancharoen, and Philippines News Agency chief editor Lorenzo Cruz.

Singapore, which has yet to put up its own agency, attended the conference as an observer.

The delegates agreed to continue the invitation to Singapore in future meetings as an observer, the next to be held next year in Bangkok under the rotation system.

They also reiterated their appeal to the governments in the ASEAN area to reduce telecommunication tariffs for their news agencies "in order to intensify the movement of news and information within the region thereby facilitating the achievement of ASEAN objectives."

They agreed on the compilation of a calendar of events in the ASEAN states for news planning purposes and a joint editorial stylebook.

The participants noted several major resolutions relevant to news agency operations approved by the inter-governmental conference in Kuala Lumpur last February and agreed to use them as part of the framework to promote closer cooperation in news and information among the agencies.

The resolutions involve the proposed news network, reduction of telecom tariffs, international assistance, increasing the flow of news material, and education and training.

Philippines Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo who later received the delegates called on the ASEAN governments to reduce their telecom tariffs for the ASEAN agencies to help speed up the flow of intra-regional news and information.

Congratulating the participants "for your successful deliberations," Mr Romulo, a Pulitzer Prize winner in journalism, said that one of the handicaps in promoting closer cooperation among the ASEAN agencies was the comparatively high tariffs.

"The governments in ASEAN must reduce their tariffs which is a stranglehold on the work of the news agencies," he said.

"It is about time that your agencies should work together. I will strongly support your objectives," the foreign minister added.

CSO: 5500

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

JAPAN-ASEAN COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE--Tokyo July 19 KYODO--The Cabinet approved Tuesday Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda's proposal to jointly launch a communications satellite with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Australia and New Zealand. The Foreign Ministry will sound out the nations concerned on the proposal. At the Cabinet meeting, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Nikichi Shirahama suggested obtaining the thorough understanding of the other nations involved because it will also have a military bearing. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0511 GMT 10 Jul 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

## AUSTRALIA

### EDUCATOR CLAIMS SATELLITES THREATEN NATIONAL AUTONOMY

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 18 May 79 p 19

[Text] Communications satellites in space threatened the autonomy of nations, the deputy vice-chancellor of the University of WA, Professor Gordon Reid, said yesterday.

The communications technology held no respect for political theory or political territory, he said.

Professor Reid, a former professor of politics, was speaking at the university at the conference of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.

He said that other nations could use satellites to obtain details relevant to our "defence," industries, agricultural matters, weather and geological intelligence.

"The information available through satellite technology will be profoundly important in determining the relative economic strengths of the existing rich and existing poor nations," he said.

"It will bolster the strength of transnational corporations."

Political borders and frontiers would look in-

creasingly irrelevant because of telecommunications technology, he said.

Australians had assumed that the responsibility for exploiting space technology should be left to the Federal Government.

#### DECISIONS

"Information technology is assumed to give us the wherewithal for centralised decision-making for the government of this vast continent," he said.

Professor Reid said he believed that centralising information technology in Australia would threaten the basic characteristics of its political system.

"Linked with our propensity for secrecy in government, it will threaten the values of limited government, divided power, political pluralism and freedom of political activity that those characteristics embrace," he said.

## AUSTRALIA

### NEED FOR, USES OF AUSTRALIAN SATELLITE DESCRIBED

M. Itourne THE AGE in English 18 May 79 p 9

[Feature by Brian Courtis, television writer: "Packer's Eye in the Sky"]

[Excl.]

**I**F Kerry Packer's wishes were rockets, his national communications satellite would be up there now, ready to beam televised cricket reports into the dead centre.

Mr. Packer's enthusiasm for a lift-off, witnessed last weekend at the ALP's national rural seminar at Orange, NSW, is such that it might be considered intense lobbying. A campaign even.

He dismisses the suggestion. "I haven't pushed. I haven't pushed it at all," he insists. "To be absolutely honest, there's been no need to push it because the arguments for it are self-evident.

"It's quite an extraordinary invention. It's going to come; all we're really arguing about is the time, and what is going to happen to it."

Over a recent lunch in his Sydney office (vitamins and liquid diet food for Mr. Packer, quiche and white wine for deputy chairman Harry Chester and the audience), Mr. Packer bowled up his facts and figures for the proposed domestic satellite.

Les Free, his technology expert, and right hand man at the Orange talks, was at the end of a phone in Melbourne, checking the sums, correcting the terminology, wherever necessary.

"What would this satellite do? Well a satellite is just another form of communications," Mr. Packer says, emphasising the simplicity, first into hand.

"If you want communications for a country the size of Australia, you can do it with microwave or coaxial cables . . . terrestrial circuits.

"Now the cost of putting terrestrial circuits on for a sparsely-populated area is astronomical. We're looking at the alternative to that.

"What we would say is this: once you move into the area of sophisticated communications, what you need is all forms — coaxial cables, microwave dishes, and a satellite."

It's an argument that can be traced back to the August, 1977 report, prepared by American communications expert Donald Bond, sent to the Government by Mr. Packer's organisation.

Following this, the Government set up its task force and it in turn, late last year, recommended introduction of a system.

The type of system Australia might buy from one of the big private American contractors involves three satellites (an operational one and a reserve in the sky, and a back-up one down below), tracking and control stations, and sending and receiving ground stations.

Mr. Packer's experts have estimated that the space section, which would operate for an approximate life of eight years, would cost \$120 million, while the ground stations, with an indefinite life, would cost \$220 million.

It would take four to five years to put into operation from scratch, would be insured at Lloyds at a cost of something like \$2 million, and would put us among the growing league of countries with communications satellites.

The way Les Free puts it, Australia should move soon, because

"It's starting to become crowded up there".

The satellite would be sent 35,800 km above the equator where it would orbit synchronised with the rotation of the Earth. It would cover Australia from what would appear to be a fixed position in the sky.

How useful would it be? Its communication capacity apparently can be measured in terms of the number of "transponders" it contains.

One transponder can relay back to earth a single television programme, or many radio programmes, or 600 two-way telephone circuits, or more than 40 million pieces of digital data a second.

Among the dozen or so United States domestic satellites are several with 24 transponders. A 15 or 18-transponder satellite might be sufficient for Australia's needs.

Mr. Packer, who critics say has eased his stand considerably since the days of the Bond report, says television is "quite low on the list" of those who would benefit from the satellite.

"There is defence. Every army patrol could have communications with headquarters from any part of Australia by having a portable 'dish' with them", he said.

And BHP offshore oil rigs in the Northwest could transmit data to headquarters computers.

Among those who have shown interest in using a satellite, Mr. Packer says, are the Department of Transport, Telecom for its phone services, OTC for traffic to the islands around Australia, the ABC for radio and television services, the banks, insurance companies, Australian Associated Press, and "a lot of people who live in the outback".

And what would it cost us?

"There's no doubt that it will pay for itself. No doubt whatever. It will be a money-spinner."

"We did say that if it's money stopping the satellite, we were sure a private consortium could put one up here . . . If that's the worry. The Americans have had the experience of financing satellites and they know that they make money."

Mr. Packer stresses again that his company does not want to own a satellite, that, beyond the use of a transponder for his television channel, he doesn't want anything to do with it. There

have been misunderstandings about his interest, he says.

"What we see happening in the television area is that the three other major stations and ourselves would send up a signal to that satellite.

"We would have made arrangements. We would ring up the country television stations and say this week we are going to have such-and-such and we think you might be interested in taking those . . . to Orange, Wagga, and so on.

"They would make individual buying assessments. We would, at that point say right-oh, we can deliver the programme to you with a sponsor.

"Imagine the growth in advertising for country districts when you've got it being sold in the big metropolitan areas to Mart with . . ."

In his submission to the task force, Mr. Packer envisaged the addition of one new commercial TV station to every country area where one already existed and two where only the ABC service existed. This would mean at least 120 new commercial stations throughout Australia.

Would these stations remain independent?

"Oh, completely. The truth of the matter is we're not allowed to own them; we don't want to own them."

The country commercial stations taking satellite TV would be able to select from programmes offered by the three major sending networks.

Mr. Packer sees his fiercest critics as "paranoid". He says those country TV station chiefs now attacking him would eventually benefit greatly from a satellite.

"If they sat down for five minutes and tried to work it out, they would realise it's the best thing that could happen to them."

"What we're saying is that the growth in advertising revenue will more than make up the loss of revenue from having two stations instead of one."

Mr. Packer, not pushing, not campaigning, reels out lists of figures, costs, with the help of distant Mr. Free. That satellite is really being wished off the ground.

"I think it is absolutely a foregone conclusion," he says.

"It might be 1985. It might be 1995, but the fact that we need a satellite, the fact that the country needs it, is inarguable. There's just no other way."

## 'We could Close or become Slave Station'

**A**MONG those who want to keep Kerry Packer grounded are Telecom employees, some Labor Party spokesmen and, inevitably, existing country television station chiefs.

They see the satellite in terms of unnecessary expenditure, as a threat to jobs in Telecom and the rural television industry, and as a tool of city-based monopolists. But nobody has been more fierce in opposition than Nigel Dick, managing director of Victorian Broadcasting Network Ltd.

"We don't object to the satellite system . . . we object to his satellite system," Mr. Dick told me this week. He said Mr. Packer, in proposals to the Government task force, expressed the hope that local interests would seek the new TV station licences and raise the necessary capital for establishment of stations.

Mr. Dick said that two commercial stations could not exist in "most if not all" regional areas of Australia. The audience, and therefore the advertising revenue, would be halved and it would be unprofitable.

"We could then do one of two things, either close our doors or become a slave station to another Sydney conglomerate. The minute we do that, we eliminate all local input."

## AUSTRALIA

### CANADIAN SATELLITE TO TRANSMIT TO AUSTRALIA

Melbourne THE AGE in English 22 May 79 p 26

[Text]

A CANADIAN satellite will be reoriented to transmit to Australia this year as part of an experiment with new technology, according to the Minister for Post and Telecommunications, Mr. Staley.

Mr. Staley visited Canada in February as part of a study tour looking at the possibility of Australia launching a domestic communications satellite.

He has since sent one of his top engineers back to Canada to review the possibility of direct broadcasting with a low power, low cost satellite.

He said the special task force set up by the Federal Government to examine the possibility of a communications satellite had not examined the possibility of direct broadcasting.

The use of such a satellite in Canada had exploded the theory that a good television picture could not be transmitted with a low power system.

The overwhelming con-

sensus of opinion among overseas telecommunications experts was that Australia should not delay in setting up a satellite system.

Experts advised Australia against opting for the latest and most flashy equipment. They also said it would be better for Australia to buy a system "off the shelf" rather than develop its own system.

Developing an appropriate system in Australia could add \$25 million to the cost of each satellite.

If Australia bought a ready-made system it would cost about \$60 million to put a satellite in space and under \$100 million to establish three, a massive cost saving over some of the earlier predictions. (These have ranged up to \$300 million)

Mr. Staley said some commercial regional television stations had developed unreal fears about a loss of regional identity if programmes could be beamed from populous areas to remote ones.

## AUSTRALIA

### PROPOSAL FOR ETHNIC TELEVISION NETWORK OUTLINED

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 29 May 79 p 7

[Text] Canberra.--A proposal for a commercial ethnic television network to transmit to nine centres around Australia in six languages has been put before the Ethnic Television Review Council.

The proposal also suggests the establishment of a national advisory panel, made up of Government, ethnic community and broadcasting representatives to oversee the network's operations.

The package was outlined to the council last week, and a detailed written submission will go before it this week.

The suggestion has been made by a company called Australian Community Television, set up by Sydney producer, Mr. Johnny Walker to work out a suitable format for ethnic television.

Mr. Walker said yesterday the initial cost of setting up the network would be \$23 million and annual running costs would be between \$7 million and \$9 million.

#### TV kit

He said he had firm backers for the move, and transmission could begin in about nine months after approval was obtained.

Mr. Walker said the network would transmit to Sydney and Melbourne in its early stages, then would branch out to other capital cities and regional centres about 15 months later.

Under the technical arrangements proposed for the broadcast, viewers would be able to purchase a unit to go with their television which would enable them to pick up voice transmission in any one of several different languages.

Mr. Walker said the cost of the unit would be about \$38.

A similar system was already operating in Belgium and was being planned for South Africa.

Mr. Walker said members of ethnic communities would be involved in the development of programmes, and he envisaged the national advisory panel would have power of editorial veto.

He is also connected with Enterprise Color Video, which is packaging the present pilot series.

He said ECV had no control over the content of the present programmes, but merely provided technical facilities.

The cost of the pilot series was \$3000 an hour, excluding administrative overheads of the special broadcasting service, which was responsible for ethnic television.

Mr. Walker said his proposal for the network had been well-received by the Ethnic Television Review Council, which is chaired by Mr. Frank Galbally.

However Mr. Galbally's statement at the weekend that ethnic television would benefit by going commercial was criticised yesterday by the Opposition media spokesman, Senator Ryan.

CSO: 5500

## AUSTRALIA

### TELECOM ENGINEERS DEVELOP COMPUTER OCCUPANCY MONITOR

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 4 Jun 79 p 12

[Text]

**DESIGN** and development of a little black box which spies on lazy computers and announces when and by how much they are slacking is an achievement of far-reaching significance by a group of Telecom Australia engineers and technicians.

The processor monitoring instrument (PMI), as it is called, has universal application because it can measure the effective occupancy of any computer — that is, how much time the computer spends doing useful work.

It can even measure its own occupancy because it includes a microprocessor in its design.

It also simultaneously monitors and displays up to 13 different components of the computer's workload, so the operator can see at a glance what kinds of jobs, calls or activities are contributing to the computer's occupancy.

For Telecom Australia it has a vital role — helping to maximise traffic capacity of its growing range of electronic exchanges.

It does this by tracking down and indicating system bottlenecks without interfering with normal exchange operation and it has a further valuable function as a tool for traffic engineers and planners.

It can supply data on its screen or on a miniature printer which can be used to obtain the measurements of processing time that are needed as raw input information for capacity studies.

Until now, there had been no efficient way of getting these time measurements, nor of independently monitoring the processing occupancy on our trunk exchanges.

Another use for PMI will be counting the different types of calls passing through an exchange. For example, international, trunk, nuisance calls and calls to operators.

The PMI project began when Telecom's Engineering Department passed the problem of monitoring central processor performance in trunk exchanges to the research department for investigation.

Working from scratch in 1977, the PMI was de-

signed and built by members of the Signalling and Control Section and Technical Services Section in the Switching and Signalling Branch, Research, with valued assistance from the Micro-electronics Section, the Model Shop and the outposted Drafting Group (General Services Division) at Research and from members of the Switching Design Branch, HQ.

The instrument, housed in a 50 cu cm steel box and weighing about 30 kg, is normally mounted on a trolley, and can be lifted by one strong person.

A great deal of design effort went into ensuring that the PMI could be used for any of the SPC systems to be installed in the Australian network, without the need for any software or hardware modification of the SPC system to be monitored, and without any undesirable electrical interference with the system being monitored.

CSO: 5500

## AUSTRALIA

### COMMERCIAL LICENSES ISSUED FOR FIVE NEW FM STATIONS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Jun 79 p 1

[By Doug Holden]

[Text]

THE Federal Government yesterday opened the way for a major expansion of commercial radio.

It announced the introduction of new commercial licences in the FM (frequency modulation) band which will be issued initially for two stations in Sydney and Melbourne and one each in Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.

The Government will not allow the existing major AM commercial operators to apply for the FM licences while retaining their existing licences.

In doing so it will have injected a greater degree of competition and diversity into the commercial radio industry.

The Government's decision not to amend existing ownership and control provisions of broadcasting legislation is a major defeat for the commercial radio lobby.

It is also a personal victory for the Minister for Post and Telecommunications, Mr Staley.

It is known that at one stage he considered resigning from the Government if existing commercial radio operators won access to the new stations on the FM band.

Mr Staley's stocks in the Government, at a low ebb six months ago, have soared as a result of yesterday's announcement and his recent successful battle for a major ABC inquiry.

The Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters — the association of commercial radio stations — fought hard for access to the FM band and had no comment yesterday.

Mr Staley said that while ownership and control in commercial radio was already more diverse than in television the introduction of commercial FM was an opportunity to encourage further diversification, competition and choice.

"The Government believes that diversity of ownership in this area is of benefit to the community and encourages greater freedom of expression and enterprise," he said.

The advantage of the new commercial FM stations will be greater freedom from interference on a relatively unused frequency.

The FM band also provides much higher quality and clarity in music presentation and immediate scope for high-fidelity stereo transmissions.

The ABC has been operating a "quality" FM stereo service for two years.

INDIA

BRIEFS

END OF SATELLITE EXPERIMENT--Ahmedabad, July 1--The operational phase of the Satellite Telecommunications Experiments Project came to an end yesterday after nearly two years of successful tests using the Franco-German satellite Symphonie, says UNI. The project was taken up by the Indian Space Research Organization and the Posts and Telegraphs Department. Three main earth stations in Ahmedabad, Delhi and Madras and two transportable terminals were used for conducting experiments in special techniques of satellite communication. The chairman of ISRO said yesterday a completely indigenous satellite, Apple, would be launched in the middle of next year. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 2 Jul 79 p 8]

IMPROVE FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS--India, whose external broadcasts are often jammed by powerful overseas transmitters, has called for an end to the law of the jungle that presently governs the use of radio frequencies in international broadcasting. This is one of the proposals India has made to the World Administrative Radio Conference scheduled to begin in Geneva in September. The conference will review and revise the existing radio regulations governing the operation of radio services throughout the world. [Text] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Jul 79 BK]

CSO: 5500

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

ATAMBUA TELEVISION RELAY STATION--Defense and Security Minister and Armed Forces Commander Gen Mohammad Jusuf on 17 July inaugurated TVRI's (Television Republik Indonesia's] 1030 relay station in Atambua, East Timor. It was built at a cost of 78 million rupiah. [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 17 Jul 79 BK]

CSO: 5500

JAPAN

BRIEFS

'CAPTAIN SYSTEM' TEST RUNS--Tokyo July 7 KYODO--The Posts and Telecommunications Ministry is expected to start conducting test runs of a newly-developed data system late this year to televise information to household monitors. The system, combining telephone with TV sets, has been developed for transmitting information by characters and patterns to households on request and is expected to open a new age of information media. It is called the Captain System, named after "Character and Pattern Telephone-Access Information Network." The tests will be conducted with 1,000 monitors in Tokyo, consisting of 800 households and 200 hotels and information suppliers, the ministry said. This is a yen 130 million project jointly sponsored by Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation, Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co., the Communication Industries Association of Japan and nine major commercial banks, it said. Information will be supplied by 20 newspapers, news agencies, including KYODO News Service, advertising agencies, publishing firms and department stores, it said. The ministry plans to start test runs with 100 monitors this year and the remaining 800 around next March. [as received] The tests will be conducted until March 1981, it added. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 7 Jul 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

LAOS

BRIEFS

KHAMMOUAN TELEPHONE NETWORK--During the first third of 1979 Khammouan Province Post and Telecommunication Services have intensely expanded and improved its specialized task by increasing the number of telephones to each division within each district. They began to install a magnetic telephone exchange at [Meuang] Khamkeut District which was comprised of 15 phones. Moreover, they also repaired a certain number of small phones and a magnetic exchange. At the same time, during the past 3 months, they intensified their public services in both domestic and international mail deliveries which resulted in: received and delivered 25,577 domestic and international letters; received and dispatched 734 telegrams for both the government and state enterprises. This has helped improve the service and communication flow within the society. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 5 May 79 p A 6] 9438]

CSO: 5500

MALAYSIA

AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA ON USE OF PALAPA SATELLITE

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 9 Jun 79 p 12

[Text]

MALAYSIA will officially use the Indonesian Palapa satellite system for television and other domestic communications from July 1 next year.

The agreement was reached at a three-day meeting between senior telecommunication officials from the two countries which ended in Medan, north Sumatra, yesterday.

According to the agreement, Malaysia will initially lease one of the Palapa transponders for a period of five years at \$871,000 a year.

The transponder will be used for television link between Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah and Sarawak and for the domestic communication network.

A statement issued by the Indonesian Directorate-General of Post and Telecommunications said today the meeting was held to follow up the memorandum of understanding signed here recently to improve communications link be-

JAKARTA, June 8

the two countries. The agreement also provides for the establishment of a submarine cable linking Penang and Medan which is being studied by the two countries.

The Director-General of Telecommunications, Tan Sri Haji Moham Hassan bin Abdul Wahab, who led the Malaysian delegation, told reporters in Medan the meeting had reached agreement on the need to further improve and diversify communications facilities between the two countries.

Malaysia would consider extending the lease period and also would look into the possibility of leasing additional transponders, he said.

The Indonesian Director-General for Post and Telecommunications, Maj.-Gen. Suryadi, said the leasing of Palapa by Malaysia marked a new era of cooperation in telecommunications between the two countries.  
— Bernama

CSO: 5500

NEW ZEALAND

WEATHER CENTER TO USE COMPUTER PROCESSING SYSTEM

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 22 May 79 p 19

[By Frank Linton-Simpkins]

[Excerpts] For the last 11 years the Wellington station has been able to receive cloud pictures from the weathersat transmissions.

The pictures have been manually gridded and used by the meteorologists as an aid to analysis of weather patterns in NZ.

This assessment of the weathersat pictures took place at the NZ Weather Forecast center at Kelburn.

More recent satellites, with their ability to provide temperature soundings, have not proved to be so susceptible to manual processing.

This problem led the office to move to computer processing with a dual PDP 11-70 system. This will enable the office to process, at high speed, data from the polar-orbiting TIROS-N satellite.

The system will also allow processing of data from the geo-static satellite over the central Pacific and to the north of Australia.

The NZ met office hopes that the computer and the antenna/receiver systems will be ready for use early in 1980.

Running the antenna tracking program, which will be supplied with the hardware, the interactive computer will receive satellite transmissions at a rate of 65,000 10-bit words per second over a period of 15 minutes. This is the maximum time that TIROS-N will be over the horizon at Wellington.

CSO: 5500

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

SUBMARINE CABLE OPENS--Taipei, 9 July--Communications Minister Lin Chin-sheng opened the first submarine cable between Taiwan and the Ryukyus at Toucheng, Yilan Monday morning. The cable runs 680 kilometers underseas from Taiwan to the Ryukyus. It took one year and 10 months to lay the cable. This is the first coaxial international submarine cable the Republic of China has laid. The inauguration at Toucheng, a coastal town in Yilan County was witnessed by communications officials from Japan, the United States, Great Britain, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, the Philippines, Korea, Indonesia, and Thailand. According to the Directorate General of Telecommunications, the cable is capable of transmitting 480 lines at 4000 HZ or 630 lines at 3000 HZ. Currently, two more submarine cables are being laid. One will connect Taiwan with Guam, and the other with the Philippines. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 1008 GMT 9 Jul 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

HUNGARY

MAJALAI MEETS WITH ALGERIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS MINISTER

ID: 1312 Algiers APS in English 1019 GMT 7 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Budapest, 7 July (APS)--Algerian Minister for Telecommunications Mohamed Zerguini a formal visit to Hungary since July 4 met here with his Hungarian counterpart Mr Palla [sentence as received]. The two ministers said they were satisfied at the development, for the last two years, of the cooperation between the two countries.

The day after his arrival to the Hungarian capital, the Algerian delegation visited a plant of telecommunications where they appreciated the progress achieved in Hungarian technology.

Mr Zerguini then met with Mr Soltész, minister for metallurgy and mechanical engineering. The two men reviewed the state of bilateral cooperation. Mr Zerguini stressed the necessity to extend cooperation to assistance in qualified technology. Finally, the Algerian minister was received by Hungarian commerce minister and Vice-Premier József Marjai.

CSO: 5500

YUGOSLAVIA

CHINESE RADIO-TV DELEGATION RECEIVED

Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1945 GMT 27 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade--Ismailj Bajra, member of the Federal Executive Council and federal secretary for information, has received the delegation from Chinese Radio and Television led by Jin Zhao, deputy director of the Central Broadcasting Administration, which is visiting Yugoslavia as guests of Yugoslav Radio and Television. In lengthy friendly talks they exchanged views on the promotion of bilateral cooperation in the sphere of information as well as on the possibilities of cooperation on a broader international level.

CSO: 5500

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

PERU SIGNS NEWS EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO

PA031917 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Jun 79 p 4 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 27 Jun (ESI-PERU)--Peru and Mexico today established relations for close cooperation in the information field by signing an exchange and cooperation agreement to publish cultural, economic, scientific and technological news items as well as those dealing with habits and facts of the two countries.

The agreement, which also calls for the dissemination of press, radio and television material, was signed by Gen Juan Estrada Bracamonte, National Information Service (SINADI) director; Pedro Ferriz Santa Cruz, NOTIMEX general director; and Col Juan Alvarado Trujillo, Peruvian Information Services Enterprise (ESI-PERU) board president. ESI-PERU will be in charge of the news services.

Donaciano Gonzalez Gomez, Mexican ambassador to Peru, attended the ceremony, as did the chief director of the Central Information Office (OCI) and officials from SINADI and NOTIMEX who came to Peru with Ferriz.

NOTIMEX General Director Ferriz Santa Cruz said that the agreement is beneficial for the two countries, which are members of the nonaligned movement and participate in the news pool established by the nonaligned countries, because it permits the exchange of information which will provide the world with a clear and precise image of their daily events.

According to the agreement, NOTIMEX and SINADI will have a daily information service between Mexico City and Lima which will be distributed among its consumers and clients. In special cases, both parties can request detailed information, as well as reports and articles, which can be sent through telex, telegram or mail. The service can be extended to include radio photos, documented information and other special services on specialized articles, issues and bulletins.

In the multilateral field, the agreement calls for continued efforts toward consolidating and developing regional information cooperation to establish a new order in world news services.

The two countries also agreed to promote bilateral and multilateral agreements exclusively within the nonaligned movement which guarantees the independence and autonomy of the two news agencies and equal conditions in their treatment.

The agreement is for 2 years and can be extended by common agreement.

CSO: 5500

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

'CANA' EXPANSION PLANS--Developmental changes are being made at one of the news agencies serving the Bahamas. The Caribbean News AGency, Limited--CANA-- has announced that in its efforts to assist in the development of the Caribbean, its services will be extended to the French-, Dutch- and Spanish-speaking Caribbean. The announcement was made during the third annual general meeting of the board of directors of the Caribbean News Agency, Limited. The chairman of the news agency said that time has come when CANA must move to accept the wider challenge which lies beyond the English-speaking Caribbean. The chairman said to this end plans are underway to link CANA to Curacao, Surinam, Martinique, Guadeloupe, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela. The agency which services the Bahamas Broadcasting Corporation with news from the rest of the Caribbean and the world is presently seeking financial assistance for this project. Financial aid is expected to come from the European Economic Community, West Germany and a funding agency in the United States. The chairman also announced in the meeting that plans are underway for an agricultural commodities service. The agency reported a financially successful year, ending with a profit of 24,000 dollars. [Text] [Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Jun 79 FL]

CSO: 5500

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

PUBLIC SERVICE RADIO STATIONS--During the first 6 months of this year the General Telecommunications Board put 10 radio stations at the service of the public. They operate on a frequency of 8,000 khz. According to statements made by (Rene Osorio Beltran), director of the telecommunications service has allowed an extension of the operations of the organization throughout the country. The stations have been located in the various departments, particularly Sucre, Potosi and Oruro. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Jul 79 PY]

CSO: 5500

COBRA TO MARKET NEW COMPUTER BY MID-1980

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 22 Jun 79 p 19

[Text] A new computer entirely designed and manufactured in Brazil--the G-20, with a capacity identical to that of medium-capacity machines--will be put on the market by COBRA [Brazilian Computers and Systems, Inc] in mid-1980, according to an announcement made yesterday by the company's technical director, Deocleciano Pegado.

The introduction of this product--an improved successor to the G-10 and G-11 minicomputers that is based on new technologies for electronic components--was announced during the symposium held in the chamber of the state Legislative Assembly under the sponsorship of the Committee on Science and Technology of the assembly. A prototype of the new machine will be presented during the National Congress on Data Processing.

A Reserved Market

Reservation of the domestic market to Brazilian companies (such as COBRA) that manufacture computers was defended by engineer Iva Marques, the DIGIBRAS [Brazilian Digital Enterprise] representative taking part in the symposium. He pointed out that continuation of this protection for the Brazilian data processing industry is the only way to guarantee the development of products that are entirely conceived and designed in Brazil.

Marques also emphasized that this protectionist policy is made necessary by the increasing importance of the creation of new companies that will be capable of investing in the training of the technical teams essential to mastery of a technology which has profound social and economic implications. "We shall have to train hundreds--perhaps thousands--of technical teams," he said, "and this would be difficult to accomplish solely on the basis of a government subsidy. We must create the conditions that will enable the users of the computers to finance the process of acquiring a greater degree of technological autonomy. The multinational corporations," he emphasized, "are acting in similar fashion by channeling the moneys earned here into the laboratories of the respective countries where they maintain their home offices. It is the technical teams of these countries that give the latter their autonomy."

Ezequiel Pinto Dias, president of the Data Processing Professional Association of Rio de Janeiro, described the situation--and point of view--of the technical experts in that field, who today number 29,000 in the entire state. He alerted the delegates to the "closed-door policy" of the group that is currently studying national data processing policy and discussed the working conditions of data processing professionals. He cited the case of the state's Data Processing Center, "where," he said, "they were inadequately represented by the Federation of Workers in Commerce and found themselves forced to yield in the face of pressures that were sometimes not very subtle."

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CSU: 5500

BRAZIL

**EMBRATEL TO SIGN INTERNATIONAL SUBMARINE CABLE ACCORD**

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Jul 79 p 12

[Text] From the Brasilia bureau--Helvecio Gilson, president of EMBRATEL [Brazilian Telecommunications Company], left yesterday for Europe to sign the international agreement providing for the installation, operation and maintenance of the system of submarine cables that will link South America, Africa and Europe in a communications network. The agreement will be put in final form at the conclusion of the conference to be held on 12 July in Dakar.

Construction of the system will entail the expenditure of approximately \$150 million (approximately 4.4 billion cruzeiros). Through EMBRATEL Brazil will be the major individual participant in the undertaking, with a one-third share not only of the ownership of the overall system but also of the use of the circuits. In view of the extent of Brazil's participation, the management of this future international consortium will be headed by Brazilian technical experts. Besides Brazil, the participants in the consortium are Argentina, the Ivory Coast, Senegal, Portugal, Italy, France, Switzerland, West Germany and Great Britain.

The system is scheduled to go into operation in late 1982 and have a useful life of 25 years. It will consist of two submarine cables--one linking Recife with Dakar and the other linking Dakar with Lagos, Portugal--for a total distance of approximately 5,500 kilometers. The cables will be laid at an average depth of 3,200 kilometers [sic].

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BRAZIL

BRIEFS

TELEBRAS TRAINING CENTER OPENED--With President Joao Figueiredo in attendance, the TELEBRAS [Brazilian Telecommunications Corporation] Training Center, which is designed to provide high-level training for the system and to introduce new technologies in the field of telecommunications through the development of research, was inaugurated yesterday in this capital. Gen Jose Antonio de Alencastro e Silva, president of TELEBRAS, delivered an address in which he reviewed the expansion of telecommunications in Brazil during the past 4 years and the difficulties encountered in that sector. The new TELEBRAS center covers an area of 20,000 square meters and cost 520 million cruzeiros. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 29 Jun 79 p 8] 10992

CSO: 5500

CHILE

BRIEFS

'EFE' OPENS SANTIAGO OFFICE--Santiago, Chile, 6 Jul (EFE)--The Spanish news agency EFE will inaugurate its new office at 188 Calle Coronel Bueras here on Monday, 9 July. The ceremony, which will start at 1900, will be presided over by Luis Maria Anson, president of the EFE Administrative Council and general director. He will come from Madrid, the agency's headquarters, especially for the event. With its new office in Santiago, Chile, EFE will be able to service the demands for information by the written press and radio and television stations. EFE is currently reaching the most remote places in Chile, directly or through contracts, from Africa to Puerto Williams in the Beagle Channel, thus servicing the main publications, radio stations and television channels in the country. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 2126 GMT 6 Jul 79 PA]

CSO: 5500

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

IRAQI-SYRIAN MICROWAVE PROJECT--Baghdad, 16 July-- Sa'dun Ghaydam, Revolution Command Council member and minister of communications, inaugurated the Iraqi-Syrian microwave project today in the presence of the Syrian communications minister. The project provides for telephone and telegraph services and television transmission between Iraq and Syria. It has an initial capacity estimated at 240 channels, which could be expanded to 960 channels in light of the actual and projected bilateral communications activity.  
[Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN]

CSO: 5500

NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS

**BRIEFS**

MOROCCO-SAHARA COMMUNICATIONS CUT--Morocco has cut off telephone and telegram communications between Las Palmas and El Aiun, the former capital of Spanish Sahara. Source in Las Palmas have stated that Morocco cut off the 24 communications channels between the two cities with no explanation. According to the Las Palmas LA PROVINCIA the motives for the cut in communications are purely political and correspond to Morocco's desire to prevent the transmission of news on the situation in the Sahara. [Summary] [Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jul 79 LD]

OO: 3110

IRAQ

BRIEFS

OPENING OF MICROWAVE PROJECT--Baghdad, 16 Jul--Sa'dun Ghaydan, Revolution Command Council member and minister of communications, inaugurated the Iraqi-Syrian microwave project today in the presence of the Syrian communications minister. The project provides for telephone and telegraph services and television transmission between Iraq and Syria. It has an initial capacity estimated at 240 channels, which could be expanded to 960 channels in light of the actual and projected bilateral communications activity. [Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN]

CSO: 5500

JORDAN

BRIEFS

NEW AMMAN RADIO--Amman--The Greater Amman Radio has begun its transmission with 1 mw power. This is the first stage of experimental transmission. AL-RA'Y has learned that a transmitter will be added to the current one in the next 2 weeks, also to have 1 mw power, as the total power of the Greater Amman Radio station will be 2,000 kw. The Greater Amman Radio service will cover most of the Arab world both day and night. AL-RA'Y has learned that preparations are underway at the Jordanian Radio to broadcast four programs, two of which are to be in Arabic and two in English. The present radio will transmit local national programs, while the new radio will transmit general programs. It was also learned that the present Amman radio will retain its current name, the Broadcasting Service of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, while the new station will be given a new name. [Text] [Amman AL'RA'Y in Arabic 19 Jul 79 pp 1, 13 JN]

CSO: 4802

4802

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

IVORY COAST-GUINEA TELECOMMUNICATIONS--Abidjan, 10 Jun--The Ivory Coast and Guinea have decided to establish satellite communication between the two countries beginning next year in order to improve their telephone communications. This was reported in a communique published in this capital at the end of the meetings of a joint Guinea-Ivory Coast commission for Post and Telecommunications. This same commission, chaired by the Guinean and Ivory Coast PTT ministers, Toumani Swmgare and Bangali Ktne respectively, also decided to adopt preferential postal tariffs for the two countries. [Excerpt] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 11 Jul 79 p 8]

CSO: 5500

ANGOLA

**ANGOLAN CADRES GRADUALLY DISPLACE PORTUGUESE TECHNICIANS**

Lisbon DIARIO NOVO in Portuguese 27 Jun 79 p 8

[Text] The staff of technicians of the Portuguese Radio Marconi Company which is currently lending assistance to the Public Telecommunications Enterprise of Angola is scheduled to undergo a reduction in force beginning this year as a result of the progressive increase in the number of Angolan cadres.

During 1978 a total of 36 Portuguese technicians provided assistance to the enterprise, which was created on 1 January 1977 to replace the Marconi company's Angolan operation. This Angolan enterprise is a state economic entity that provides the nation's international telecommunications and also the maritime mobile telecommunications service.

Through its land station at Cacuaco, near Luanda, the telecommunications enterprise provides--via satellite--a permanent link with Portugal, Italy and Mozambique, over a total of 39 circuits. The link with Portugal consists of 31 telephone circuits and one telephonic channel for telegraphy which is used for 17 Telex circuits and two leased circuits.

To meet the contingency of an accidental disruption of communications via satellite, and to serve as an auxiliary resource, Angola also has at its disposal a number of shortwave transmitting and receiving stations, whose equipment is currently being renovated. These stations provide--on a limited schedule--communications with Sao Tome e Principe, Cuba and the Republic of the Congo.

In 1978 telephone traffic produced 64 percent of the total revenues of the enterprise, Telex traffic 20 percent and telegraphic traffic 26 percent. Telex traffic reportedly recorded an increase of 56 percent over the corresponding figure for 1977. [figures as transmitted]

109/2

CSO: 5500

KENYA

BRIEFS

POSTS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM--Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation has embarked on an ambitious countrywide development programme to modernize and expand its services during the 1979-83 period. The aim of the programme which will cater for both rural and urban areas equally, is to expedite and improve telecommunication services for both local and international business community. The announcement was made by the corporation's chief planning engineer A. Olweny when he opened a panel discussion between telecommunications officials and the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Mombasa branch members over the weekend. To carry out the programme effectively the corporation should initiate a number of improvement projects on district level. [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 9 Jul 79 p 4]

CSO: 5500

MADAGASCAR

BRIEFS

MALAGASY-DPRK RADIO-TV ACCORD--The minister of information, ideological promotion and relations with institutions, and the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Korea to Madagascar signed an agreement of cooperation in the field of radio and television broadcasting between the government of the DPRK and Madagascar. [Excerpt] [Tananarive MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 7 Jun 79 pp 1,2] 9179

CSO: 5500

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

SHORTWAVE STATION--The board of the Broadcasting Corporation of South-West Africa has decided to go ahead with the construction of a short-wave transmission station near Windhoek. The station will cost an estimated 1,320,000 rand and would include two 100-kw transmitters. It will take about 15 months to complete. The board also decided at its latest meeting to draw up a listeners' licence register so that the issuing of listeners' licences can be effectively controlled. Licence inspectors are also to be appointed, but the meeting took no decisions on licence fees. [Text] [Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Jun 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

SIERRA LEONE

BRIEFS

NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY PROPOSED--Proposed elaborate plans are in preparation by the Information Ministry for next year's OAU summit in Freetown, Information and Broadcasting Minister Mr Thaimu Bangura disclosed yesterday. Among his ministry's priorities, Mr Bangura said, was the establishment of a national news agency and the acquisition of an outside broadcasting unit for both radio and television. [Freetown DAILY MAIL in English 24 Jul 79 pp 1, 2 AB]

CSO: 5500

ADVANTAGEOUS DROP IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS COSTS EXPECTED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 9 Jul 79 p 2

[Text] **ZAMBIA will benefit from the continued fall in telecommunications costs due to development in electronics, a British expert has said.**

Professor John Slood said in Lusaka at the weekend that between now and the next century there would be a four-fold increase in world telecommunications development.

This would include countries like Zambia with less than one per cent per hundred persons with telephones.

Addressing the Engineering Institute of Zambia on "telecommunications in the future", Prof Slood said this development should depend on whether it would pro-

vide services the community desired at a cost it could afford.

In addition the rate at which technology could progress and new developments introduced depended on politics, geography and social conditions.

"It will also not be practical for developing countries to scrap what exists in order to introduce the new. It must co-exist and inter-work with the new," he said.

Prof Slood predicted that telecommunications of the future would include video-phone, telecommand, tele-mail, home newspapers, enhanced data and super telex.

Satellite, such as Zambia's Mwembeshi Earth Satellite

would not play a major role in telecommunications in the future.

He said there was a limit to the number of satellites that could be erected at present because there likely to produce "a traffic jam" in the world's system.

The cost of services depending on labour, like the postal services, and services depending on energy consumption, such as transport, would continue to rise with costs.

Prof Slood, who is head of the department of electrical engineering at the University of Aston in Birmingham, said the growth of telecommunications in a country depended on economic prosperity.

## TELEVISION TOWER IN TASHKENT DESCRIBED

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 5 Jun 79 p 4

[Article by A. Aulov: "Thus a TV Tower Begins"]

[Text] Tashkent's TV tower differs substantially from other similar structures; its center mast will be reinforced by three 100-meter support legs, assuring a high degree of seismic stability. The 69th construction control of combine no. 11, the "Vysotstroy," is building the tower.

Presently, work projects which will securely anchor the 350-meter high giant are progressing on the foundation of the support tripod, the center mast, and the engineering building.

Pouring of the concrete for the foundation of the center mast has begun.

The section head of construction control-69, Grigoriy Semenovich Brodskiy, recounts:

"The installation of a large gantry crane was completed, and a storage area for the metal-structures prepared. Vast amounts of metal are called for. We erect a tower basically out of metal and concrete. High-alloy steel rings, 80 centimeters in diameter, which are indispensable components for inserting in the center foundation, began to arrive from the Magnitogorsk metallurgical combine.

"For the first time anywhere in the world, a new type of automatic stitch welding, developed by scientists at the Paton Institute, will be employed during the welding of the sectional elements of the support braces. Specialists from Kiev will carry out the welding operations, and at the same time train our welders. All metal-structures for the television tower will be delivered from the Chelyabinsk metal-structures plant. Already received are the support brace sections, each of which weighs almost 40 tons. Each support will consist of nine sections."

Around 40 installers, welders and machinery maintenance engineers of the combine, "Sibstal'konstruktsiya," are already engaged in the erection of

the TV tower in the capital city of Uzbekistan. We meet the site engineer of the Tashkent section of the Central Asia SMU [Construction and Installation Administration] of this combine, Anatoliy Ivanovich Davidko. From him we learn of the work to be done in the near future. The primary task is to extend the center mast to the 100-meter level, the parallel juncture of the support legs.

The structure lives; it gathers momentum. The erection of a giant such as this normally requires 4 to 5 years. But when you see the enthusiasm with which these people labor, you wish that the time could be shortened.

We take the interview out among those whose very hands are erecting the tower.

"How's the work going?"

"Excellently--provided the concrete goes when it should," answers overseer Akram Akhmedzhanov. "We work in three shifts. The crew headed by P. Kostenko is utilizing the Zlobin method, that leads to an increase in labor productivity, work quality, and a saving of time and materials."

9481

CSO: 5500

FRANCE

NEW RADIO STATION FOR COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED LABOR UNION

Programming Format

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 11 Jun 79 p 2

[Article by Jean-M. Cordier]

[Text] Longwy, 9 am: "This is Radio Lorraine Coeur d'Acier [LCA]." Each morning since 17 March, and despite the jamming, LCA broadcasts. It is the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] radio station installed in the town-hall led by communist Mayor Jules Jean. Around the microphone one of the animators, Marcel Trillat, journalist, Jean, of the local labor union, Leonard, a steel worker. Others are technicians: Claude, Jacques, all are workers.... It is a first in the history of radio.

That morning they will discuss photography with an amateur and an exposition in a town of the basin. Then, one will hear some coeds talking about their relationships with their teachers and the conclusion. It will be about an FR 3 Radio Lorraine producer, unjustly attacked on the air. She refused to exercise her right to answer, which is systematic here; the FR 3 management has forbidden its personnel to express itself about LCA under penalty of immediate dismissal.

Then comes the press review, a commented reading of the main articles and editorials in the day's national and local press. This broadcast is particularly appreciated by the audience which protests when it does not take place: "It teaches us how to read the newspapers, to see the arguments they use against the workers.... Before we realized much less that they lie and manipulate information."

Those of 23 March

In the afternoon they will discuss the prisoners of 23 March. Longwy awaits Roger Marin, still at Fleury-Merogis. Petitions have circulated demanding his and other prisoners' liberation. His address is given on the air, his

mother is interviewed. They talk about prisons where the population is 90 percent of working origin against only 10 percent from universities. Why? A lady has described on the telephone the living conditions at the nearby prison of Metz, of sinister reputation. Francoise Girard, deported to Mauthausen, described the Petain prisons....

Radio is the means of information and communication, of solidarity. It is at the studio, publicly on the air, that are expressed and converge witnesses, messages of support and even money.

Information on the current struggles are broadcast between dialogs. Sometimes it is the struggle at Bertoldi's, where the workers have obtained the abolishment of lay-offs, or at such or such small enterprise announcing the creation of their CGT union, at Cockrill, where workers are striking 2 hours each shift for their demands, working hours and conditions...or at Usinor, where they are always struggling against the Davignon plan.

The station's success is measured by the way in which it has taken total charge of the population. First, there is the matter of the Fr100 bill discretely deposited "so that it continues," a retired man who does not miss any broadcast tells me. There is also the impressive swiftness with which all the requests for equipment, cars, services of all types needed by the radio station are solved minutes after been aired.

Why not talk about the most moving, the cake lovingly prepared by the town women which constitutes the animators' ordinary dish and is shared with the daily guests! This zealous interest of the women in the station strikes the visitor.

#### The Women's Voices

It is because this has been the first opportunity for them to express themselves, to talk about their lives, their double exploitation...The town has discovered the women's words, their will to liberate themselves from the archaic organization of human relationships. Workers', steel-workers' wives, talking about love for example: "First of all there is the work-day, then home, the children, cooking, the husband...at night, one is rather sleepy." These women also talk of feeling free to dispose of their bodies, of contraception, and here the debates are not academic. The men's surprise about the women bursting into words is impressive. One of Longwy's deputy-mayors talks about one of the greatest moments of radio when a 45-year old woman, mother of 4 or 5 children, talked one day about her anguish, her fear of being pregnant again and her feeling that that would spoil her life and her husband's.

The pope's declaration against abortion has given rise to numerous debates and reflexions in this working community where the church has traditionally exerted an influence through which, inevitably, the steel manufacturers domination could not penetrate: atop the bell tower of the church at Longwy-Haut rise LCA's two antennae (frequency modulation and short wave.)

All this does not go on without moments of great emotion on the air; just when one of these oppressed and hidden words "goes through." This was the case, for example, of the handicapped's statement.

They tell me: "These are the people with whom we did not talk before. Radio has incorporated them to the town and we have discovered them. They have become our friends."

This word "friend," is frequently heard in this hard-working country, in this country where a population threatened to lose everything has started to talk. This talk, being immediate, open, the means of common struggle, is first of all solidarity, contribution, help, friendship, will to communicate.

#### Emotional Tone

The radio's tone is one of dialog, of exchange, Radio of truth, it is also subjective, of personal experience, emotional. Like the school teacher who comes with his records to share his knowledge of and love for jazz.

Another surprising experience, the weekly broadcast of Jean-Paul's poetry: "We have discovered in the population the existence of a need for poetry. People call to ask for poems as one might ask for a record. This is completely new and demonstrates the huge cultural possibilities of this communication medium."

Nothing which has happened and is happening at Longwy's radio station was or is foreseen.

Hence, the tone of liberty, the exceptional interest in broadcasts, thanks to debates on all subjects, without taboos or limitations of any type.

On Friday, 8 June, until late at night, there was a great political debate on Europe with Antoine Porcu and Alain Amicabile for the Communist Party, Francoise Giroud and Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, representatives from the PS [Socialist Party], PSU [Unified Socialist Party], Europe-Ecologie, etc. Only the RPR [Rally for the Republic] and the UDF [French Democratic Union] did not respond to the invitations sent to them.

Undoubtedly it is not an accident. Power tries everything to cut LCA's word... It did not hear about it, despite the formidable technical movements implemented to this effect (we will come back to this).

It is understandable that the station is intolerable for them. It questions them by the very fact of its existence, demonstrating hour after hour that broadcasting can serve a population instead of playing against it as is mostly the case today.

The workers can be the animators of this modern means of communication regulated by the principle not of taking hold and controlling but of giving free play to democracy. The consequences of the popular talks open up the future.

Pierrot, the poet-worker, can be on the air for 2 hours. He does not understand being quiet any more. He starts, he arrives...to be continued.

#### CGT Secretary Laroze Interview

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 14 Jun 79 p 2

[Interview by Richard Michel]

[Text] For several months Lorraine steel workers have struggled against the dismantlement of French siderurgy. This is not the first time that the men of steel, of the high ovens, have fought for their working conditions, living conditions, for the region or even to protect the industrial potential of the nation. But it is the first time that the CGT equips itself with a radio station to defend the workers. The first question arises: Why the existence of "Lorraine Coeur d'Acier?" Jean-Claude Laroze, member of the CGT confederate bureau, answers our questions.

[Question] With the generalization of social conflicts which are multiplied due to the closing of enterprises, for example, an important question arose: Did the social information given on radio and television tell the truth about this reality?

[Answer] The answer is clear: it is far from being satisfactory. The great means of information have been monopolized by power to serve their policy. They broadcast political and social information aimed at creating a bad climate by letting people think that there is a consensus in the country. Making known that deep down public opinion, despite all difficulties, understands Mr Giscard d'Estaing's policy. Now, this daily information weighs on the workers' struggle. Some among them are vulnerable to the information given by the media.

Thus, there is this big siderurgical conflict. In a large part it conditions the future of the steel workers, but also the region's and the national economic potential's. Now, on this subject, social information is totally mutilated.

Mutilated in the sense that the truth about the siderurgical crisis is not stated. Mutilated in the sense that the proposals made by labor organizations are kept silent. For example, at the time of negotiations, when Messrs Barre, Boulin or Giraud widely discussed their positions on television, the labor representatives were not invited. Of course, their thoughts are reported....

[Question] Often deformed, or sparingly....

[Answer] Precisely. In addition, there are differences, even disagreements, among unions. A serious, real information should make evident this diversity. Now, this does not show.

The government disposes of important time on the air to explain why they must dismantle the siderurgy. However, it is impossible for the CGT to disclose the "memorandum" conceived by its metallurgical federation where we explain the reasons for this crisis and the proposals for curing it.

Thus, it was not possible to accept this state of things any longer.

We had traditional means: newspapers, leaflets, posters. But, confronted by this daily mutilated information, it was not enough. Knowing that the CGT national leadership has considered the possibility of getting a radio station, our Lorraine comrades thought about this form of retort. But the birth of this station was conditioned, however, by the extent of the struggles, their awareness levels, the support of all the population. At Longwy, these conditions were present.

[Question] When the government tried to technically jam LCA, Longwy's and the region's population immediately defended the CGT radio. How can you explain such following?

[Answer] In France there is a deep aspiration of the working class and of those who are enduring the crisis to be heard and to give their point of view. Most Frenchmen, it must be said, are today deprived of the right to express themselves, of the right to intervene in his affairs, in his development. Lorraine-Coeur d'Acier, talking about their life, their misery, has immediately received the support of steel workers, but also of the rest of the population. By expressing themselves through LCA, the people down there confirmed their existence and their force.

In addition, through this station, it has been possible to measure each person's ideas about democracy and its content. That is to say that one has been able to make a point to those who heard about the existence of this station and to those who concretely sustained the workers struggle and the means which they were obtaining to succeed in that struggle.

[Question] What is the nature of LCA? Is it a free station, a pirate station, a strictly-union station or something else?

[Answer] When we made the decision to create LCA, the comrades posed themselves two questions: should we have a "radio-communiqué" where for an hour we will issue communiqués, the CGT's local, regional, national positions or should we have a CGT station where one talks about the CGT's positions but also about all the other questions which touch the lives of workers and their families?

We chose the second solution. And, for this reason, we had to have a "quality" radio station, without pretensions, but which would be an integral part of people's lives, which would be inserted in their daily life.

LCA's most positive aspect is that we have a concrete idea of what a real public information service should be. At least in substance. Let us not say that everything that LCA does is marvelous. But it is a demonstration of information which takes into account all the aspects of democratic life, but also through the elaboration, the presentation of that information and the way in which it is received, the expression of respect of the majority of that region's society.

A station of struggle, it demonstrates that Giscard-style information broadcast through the great audio-visual means is not a real public service.

But this is an element which must be stressed forcefully; these are the reasons, the motivations, which have incited the CGT confederate bureau to give the go-ahead right at the beginning, to make the financial efforts, technically and then humanly.

This station is an instrument, a means of service in the struggle of the Lorraine steel workers. Such an initiative has no sense unless conditions exist which permit engaging in actions to obtain the demands of the masses. It is an element of the action which permits quiet mobilization, and it is also the CGT labor organization's voice in order to bring its explanations its analyses, to the knowledge of the workers, the population so that the struggle might take dimensions appropriate to the nature of the objectives, in the case of siderurgy, of the attack perpetrated by the government and management. Thus, it is imperative that the responsibility for animating such a radio station be placed under the responsibility of the CGT regional organization, and locally, of militants, unionists who work so that it will become the business of all the Lorrainers in general and of Longwy's population in particular.

Thus it is not a pirate radio station, or a free radio station. It is a radio station which we have required for a great day and under the protection of the population, since it is one of its instruments for the struggle.

It must also be said that LAC's survival is not only the affair of Lorrainers. It is an experience which is an achievement for all the workers movement and for the CGT. It belongs to all the workers to help it live, to defend it and it is tied to the struggle.

[Question] What is the future? What prospects can we foresee for such an experience?

[Answer] One thing is certain: There is something irreversible about this experience. Something which goes beyond the CGT alone. We have set in march something which is on its way and nobody will be able to stop it.

It is a demonstration that workers and the CGT are capable of mastering a modern means of communication. That has enabled the CGT to remain independent of any movement, whatever it might be.

It is also a beautiful answer to those who believed, after our 40th congress, that the CGT was an organization of the past, incapable of grasping present problems, incapable of modernizing itself. Finally, it is an encouragement for all of those who struggle, who suffer from the lead seal which the government has put upon the means of information so that the aspirations for a better life might be suffocated.

9341  
CSO: 5500

NORWAY

NORWAY WILL BE ONE OF INMARSAT'S MAIN USERS

Ground Station Needed

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 21 May 79 p 45

[Article: "Norwegian Ship Stations for Satellite Communications Have Bright Prospects"]

[Text] "Putting INMARSAT [International Maritime Satellite] in service will have almost no effect on the market for ship stations for satellite communications. In Norway it can be plainly seen that the shipping companies are waiting to see for the time being. The Norwegian market will open up as soon as the telecommunications authorities set a definite date for putting a ground station into operation here in Norway or elsewhere in Scandinavia," Gunnar Gangsaas, sales director of United Marine Electronics A/S (UME), told AFTENPOSTEN.

The electrical bureau of United Marine Electronics has specialized on ship stations for satellite communications. Practically all of the first series of 10 stations have been sold, and the second series, which embraces 25 stations, has been started.

According to Gangsaas, the market for this type of equipment is increasing tremendously, especially in the United States. We are lagging behind in Norway, but that is because we have been waiting for a ground station such that the shipping companies would not be encumbered with the use of long land lines from ground stations in the United States or Japan.

Of the first series of 10 UME ship stations, Norsk Hydro will have one to install on a drilling platform in the North Sea, Høegh will try out one station on one of its vessels, two stations will be installed on Swedish ships, an Arab oil sheik has acquired a UME station for his private yacht, one station has been sold to the United States, and another is in Singapore and will be installed on a vessel down there. In addition, a West German shipyard has signed up for three stations to put on board newly built ships next year, and Gangsaas says a number of shipyards have shown interest in the equipment with a view to future procurement.

"To judge by the interest shown, I think the official number given out for expected demand for ship stations for satellite communications was very conservative," says Gunnar Gangsaas.

## Norwegian Shipping Lines Cautious on Satellite Communications

"It is obvious that putting INMARSAT into operation will have a positive effect on the shipping lines' attitude toward satellite communications," Sivert Øveraas, director of the Norwegian Shipbuilders' Association, told AFTENPOSTEN. "As the convention comes into force, the industry wants to be assured that service will continue in the future. The rate at which ships will install equipment to enable them to communicate via satellite will be determined by the rate policy that is followed."

Director Øveraas points out that a ground station for maritime satellite communications should be constructed in Norway. "It is important to get short connections from the station to the consumer by land line. In the existing MARISAT system there are ground stations only in the United States and Japan, and the long links by telegraph to Norway cost money. On the other hand, a Norwegian test project within the maritime satellite communication system showed that even at today's rates a Telex message via satellite can compete in price with a telegram sent by conventional means."

Øveraas maintains that the fast form of communication represented by satellite communication can contribute over the long term to a better ability of Norwegian shipping to compete. At the same time satellite communication will give an important security advantage, and it opens up possibilities for connections between data terminals ashore and terminals on board, and thus for economy in operation.

"The questions that Norwegian shipowners want to put to satellite communication in today's difficult economic situation are as follows: What will it cost, and how effective will the system be? The industry is extremely cautious with its investments today, and it is primarily the rates that will decide how far the shipowners will go in the purchase of the necessary equipment," says Director Øveraas.

### Norway's Voice Will Be Heard

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 21 May 79 p 45

[Article by Knut Lovstuhagen]

[Text] The MARISAT system came into operation in the fall of 1976 and consists of one satellite over the Atlantic, one over the Pacific, while a third is in orbit over the Indian Ocean. The shortcoming of the MARISAT system is primarily the lack of ground stations. With only two stations in the United States and one in Japan, there are long relay distances for communications to Europe, for example, and this has the effect that the rates are inordinately high. Among other things, this situation has held Norwegian shipowners back from making use of satellite communication to any great extent.

### Lower Rates

"Uncertainties about the future of satellite communication has also been an obstacle to the spread of this form of communication," AFTENPOSTEN was told by Ole J. Haag, chief of the telecommunications directorate staff, Oslo.

has taken part for many years in the work of preparing the foundations for INMARSAT. "Worries of that kind can now be forgotten, what with the formal decision to establish an international organization to operate maritime satellites. For the rest, it will be an important task in the time to come to get earth stations established in Europe, so that the rates can be reduced. Apart from that, there is an inclination to proceed to a general rate reduction and thus encourage increased use of satellite communication."

Haga points out that it is the Telecommunications Directorate's view that an earth station for maritime satellite communication should be established in Scandinavia. Eik, in Rogaland, where the NORSAT station for satellite contact with the oil installations on the Norwegian continental shelf is located, appears favorable in that connection. Discussions are now going on with the British about a possible pool arrangement under which a British earth station would relay communications to and from Scandinavia via a satellite station over the Atlantic. A Norwegian station will correspondingly be Britain's "ear" with regard to a satellite over the Indian Ocean. Such an arrangement is desirable, since in that case only two stations would suffice.

"Besides everything else, the expected increase in traffic with mobile oil units tells in favor of an earth station in Norway," says Haga.

#### IMCO Initiative

It was the UN Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, IMCO, that started working in the last half of the 1960's to set up an international system for maritime satellite communication. In 1972 IMCO appointed a panel of experts to analyze, among other things, the economic, operational, and organizational aspects of such a system. After a number of meetings, in 1974 the panel was able to present its rough draft, which contained a proposal for a convention establishing a new organization, INMARSAT.

On the basis of the work done by the panel of experts, an intergovernmental conference was called together in London in the fall of 1975. Over 50 countries participated. There was broad agreement that INMARSAT should be an intergovernmental organization. The United States was opposed to establishment of an agency at the governmental level, but went along with it after having presented certain demands and getting them put through. Among these was that the American government would not have any economic responsibility, but that such responsibility would be turned over to a private corporation that the government would designate.

A number of compromise solutions gradually came out of that and later intergovernmental conferences. For the time being the member states can turn the financial and operational responsibility over to public agencies or private corporations, and practically all authority in the organization will reside in a council composed of representatives of the corporations that have invested most in the organization, and not in the assembly, where all member countries will be represented. It was also decided that the convention would be divided into a governmental agreement and an operating agreement. With regard to purchasing policy, the principle of free competition was

adopted, with the proviso that geographical considerations would be taken into account as far as possible in the purchase of services.

#### Norway in the Council

It is thus the council that has the decisive influence in INMARSAT. That organ will be made up of representatives of 22 countries, 4 of them selected on the basis of the desire for a certain geographical distribution.

Norway is naturally a member. Each country's voting strength is determined by that country's investments in the INMARSAT system, and that share is not determined by the relative amount of use of the system.

The maximum investment in the organization is set at \$200 million, about one billion kroner. The United States's present share in the investment is set at 17 percent; Great Britain has 12 percent, the Soviet Union 11 percent, Norway's share is 9.5 percent, and Japan's 8.45 percent. The smallest share in the investment is set at 0.05 percent.

With a current 9.5 percent share in the investment, Norway's theoretical stake in INMARSAT is about 100 million kroner. As the situation looks today, however, it is inconceivable that Norway will ever approach that amount; it seems more likely to come somewhere between 10 and 20 million kroner. That estimate is based on the offers on satellites that are in hand. And after only a few years the INMARSAT system's receipts will be greater than its expenditures. The organization looks to be a relatively good arrangement for the member countries.

The United States has declared itself willing to increase its investment in INMARSAT beyond the aforementioned 17 percent, if the agreement is not ratified by enough countries by 18 May to bring in 95 percent of the provisional investment shares.

Today the United States has already increased its share by 30 percent. Inasmuch as matters dealt with in the council are decided by a 2/3 vote, with 33 1/3 percent the United States would have the power to block any decision. To prevent that, it has been decided that countries whose shares in the investment exceed 25 percent must offer the amount beyond that to other countries before a vote. If nobody is interested in taking over the excess amount, however, the country may vote its actual share.

The next generation of maritime communication satellites seems likely to embrace three INTELSAT satellites and three satellites from the European Space Agency, ESA.

The international telesatellite consortium INTELSAT has offered to equip 3 of its INTELSAT-5 satellites with a maritime "package," and these satellites are offered to INMARSAT for an annual rent of 70 million kroner for 7 years. ESA's offer is for 3 "Marecs" satellites, which will cost about 48 million kroner a year for 7 years. It is probable that INMARSAT will go in for this 3 + 3 solution. While the INTELSAT-5 will have a maritime

capacity of 30 to 35 telephone channels, Marecs will have about 50. Each telephone channel will provide 50 telex channels. The satellites' capacity will be adequate during INMARSAT's first 7-year period, but in the next period probably up to 100 telephone channels will be needed just over the Atlantic to cover the expected demand from the world's commercial fleets.

#### Why Satellite Communications

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 21 May 79 p 45

[Editorial]

[Excerpt] There are several reasons that tell in favor of the use of satellites for long distance communications. The most important are to relieve the overloaded maritime shortwave band and to meet the future demands for automatic traffic handling, better quality, greater reliability, improved emergency systems, and new services.

In Norway the situation is that long distance communications cannot be developed satisfactorily past the middle of the 1980's unless relief is obtained. Even today there are long waiting times for telephone service via Rogaland Radio, and the telephone traffic increases considerably every year. Other countries can point to a far greater percentual increase in traffic, and in a few years will be putting further pressure on the frequency bands. It is no longer possible to increase the degree of utilization of shortwave bands by the use of new techniques.

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